Statement

State-wise number and percentage of population below poverty line for issue of specially subsidised foodgrains under TPDS

Stetes/UTs	No. of persons (in lakhs)	%age of persons
Andhra Pradesh	153.97	22.19
Arunachal Pradesh	3.73	39.35
Assam	96.36	40.86
Bihar	493.35	54.96
Goa	1.91	14.92
Gujarat	105.19	24.21
Haryana	43.88	25.05
Himachal Pradesh	15.86	28.44
Jammu & Kashmir	20.92	25.17
Karnataka	156.46	33.16
Kerala	76.41	25.43
Madhya Pradesh	298.52	42.52
Maharashtra	305.22	36.86
Manipur	6.80	33.78
Meghalaya	7.38	37.92
Mizoram	1.94	25.66
Nagaland	5.05	37.92
Orissa	160.60	48.56
Punjab	25.11	11.77
Rajasthan	128.50	27.41
Sikkim	1.84	41.43
Tamilnadu	202.10	35.03
Tripura	11.79	39.01
Uttar Pradesh	604.46	40.85
West Bengal	254.56	35.66
Andaman & Nicobar	1.06	34.47
Chandigarh	0.80	11.35
D&N Haveli	0.77	50.84
Daman & Diu	0.18	15.80
Delhi	15.51	14.69
Lakshadweep	0.14	25.04
Pondicherry	3.31	37.40
All India :	3203.68	35.97

Transfer of Control and Management of Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar to Delhi Government

498. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar were established primarily to provide good quality essential commodities to the citizens of Delhi at reasonable prices and they assume greater significance particularly at the time of crisis;

(b) whether Government of NCT of Delhi is duty bound to ensure the availability of essential commodities at reasonable prices to the Delhities;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to transfer control and management of these two bodies to the Delhi Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUBANS PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The Super Bazar, Delhi was set-up in 1966 with the aim of providing essential quality goods at reasonable prices to the consumers of Delhi. The Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Stores Ltd. (Kendriya Bhandar) was set up in 1963 to assist its members in obtaining food stuff, essential commodities and other consumer goods at reasonable prices. While the membership of the Super Bazar, Delhi is open to individual consumers, the membership of Kendriya Bhandar is restricted to the employees of Govt. of India working or residing in Delhi and employees of autonomous corporations set up by the Govt. of India in Delhi. The Government, do take help of these consumer cooperative organisations to arrange supply of commodities of daily use at the time of their shortage. The Govt. of NCT of Delhi had utilised the services of these organisations to ensure supply of whole-meal atta to the consumer in the capital during the rise in prices in the months of October, 96 to Feb. 97.

(c) and (d) The Committee on Reorganisation of Delhi constituted by the Govt. of India in December, 87 had recommended "that the functions now being performed by the Central Govt. as

a major share holder of the Super Bazar should be made available to the Govt. of Delhi by appropriate measures". The Central Govt. is considering this matter. Regarding Kendriya Bhandar, no such action has been taken.

हिसार से रिवाड़ी के लिए गेहूं से लदी विशेष मालगाड़ी

499. **श्री रामगोपाल यादव:** क्या **खाद्य और उपभोक्ता** मामले मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के माध्यम से वितरित किए जाने के लिए 1 मार्च, 1997 को विशेष मालगाड़ी से गेहूं की बोरियां हिसार से रिवाड़ी भेजी गई थी; यदि हां, तो उक्त मालगाड़ी से कितने बोरे गेहूं भेजा गया था;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि उक्त मालगाड़ी रिवाड़ी की बजाय किसी अन्य स्थान पर भेज दी गई थी; यदि हां, तो इसके लिए कौन व्यक्ति उत्तरदायी थे;

(ग) उक्त विशेष मालगाड़ी से गेहूं के बोरे वापस रिवाड़ी कैसे लाए गए और उस पर कितना धन खर्च हुआ;

(घ) क्या सरकार ने इसके लिए उत्तरदायी व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध कोई कार्रवाई की है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

खाद्य तथा उपभोक्ता मामले के राज्य मंत्री (श्री रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह): (क) जी, नहीं। गेहूं के बोरों से लदी कोई भी विशेष मालगाड़ी 1 मार्च, 1997 को भारतीय खाद्य निगम ने हिसार से रेवाड़ी नहीं भेजी थी।

(ख) से (ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Foodgrains worth Rs. 2000 crores missing from FCI godowns

500. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of news report appearing in 'The Pioneer' dated 3rd July, 1997 that rice and wheat worth Rs. 2000 crores are missing from FCI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been ordered into it; if so, the number of people detained and charge sheets filed; and

(d) the modus operandi used by the fraudsters in this scame and what steps are taken to tighten the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUBANS PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Certain discrepancies in the figures relating to stock position maintained by the Govt. vis-a-vis the Food Corporation of India have been detected. The Govt. and the FCI are in the process of reconciling the discrepancies. A special Audit has also been ordered by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India.

Loss of fruits and vegetables due to non-availability of food processing Industries

501. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss of fruits and vegetables every year due to non-availability of food processing industries in the different states of the country particularly in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to ensure full utilisation of fruits and vegetables produced in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) Although no survey has been conducted to assess the loss of fruits and vegetables in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh, it is